

# ARMY HISTORICAL PROGRAM



STRATEGIC PLAN

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2010

From the Director of the Army Staff . . .



Today's uncertain world places great demands on America's Army. A thorough knowledge of the history of our Army provides us with the context we need to find solutions to whatever problems we face, anywhere in the world. As the plan says: "The use of relevant history to inform and guide Army decision-making at every level is the bedrock of the Army Historical Program." All who serve the Army must know history to be true professionals. General Omar Bradley said it best:

*For most men, the matter of learning is one of personal preference. But for Army officers, the obligation to learn, to grow in their profession, is clearly a public duty.*

The Army Historical Program is the means to capture our history and put it to use. This Strategic Plan is the method. I urge you to become familiar with it. Learn to use the past to improve our Army's performance in the future.

Handwritten signature of John A. Dubia.

JOHN A. DUBIA  
Lieutenant General, United States Army  
Director of the Army Staff

# Army Historical Program Strategic Plan 2010

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From the Chief of Military History . . .

America's Army will remain totally engaged in our support of the nation as we move into the next century. In support of Joint Vision 2010, the Army has developed Army Vision 2010. This strategic plan has been designed to support the Army's march into the future.

Always mindful of the value of our past and the enduring strength of the Army's heritage, the Army History Program looks to the future with great enthusiasm. For it is in the future where we must make our greatest contributions.

This strategic plan identifies the five major focus areas in which all of us who support the Total Army must succeed. The goals we have identified within each of the focus areas provide substance to the Army Historical Program and direct the planned actions that will ensure our success now and into the next century.

Together, we will use the past, in the present, to shape the future.

## **DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A**

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John W. Mountcastle  
Brigadier General, USA  
Chief of Military History

# Introduction



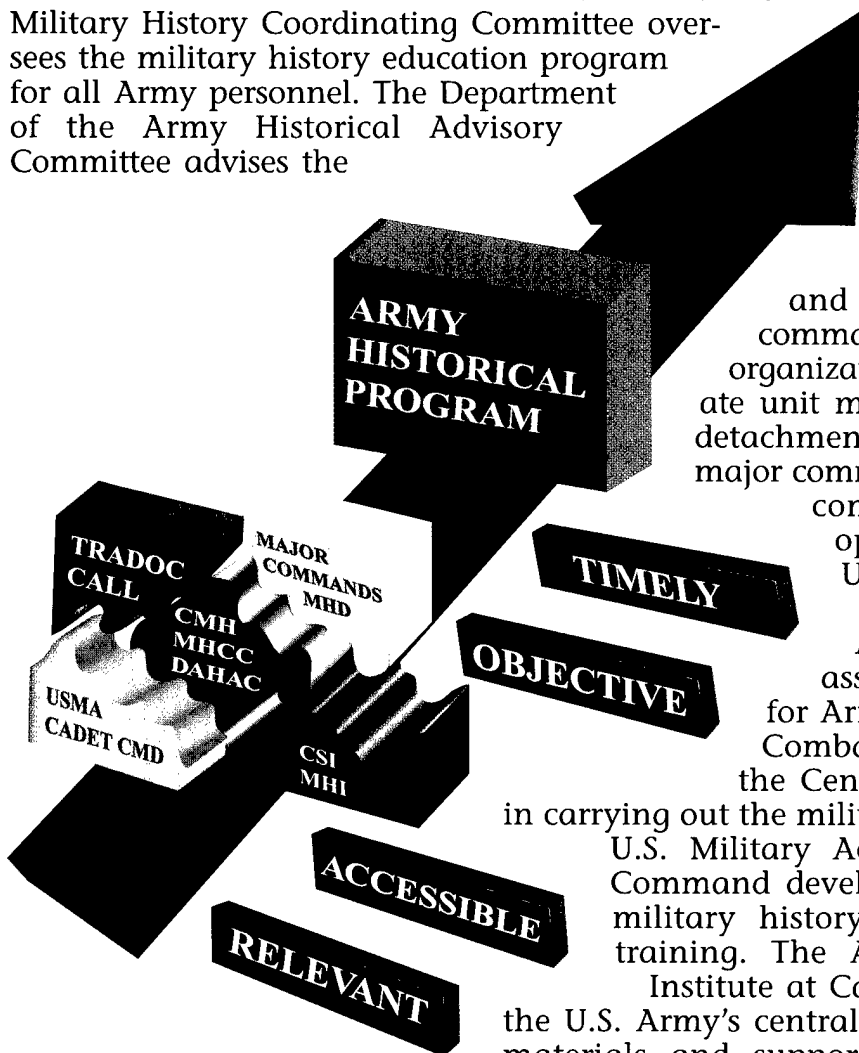
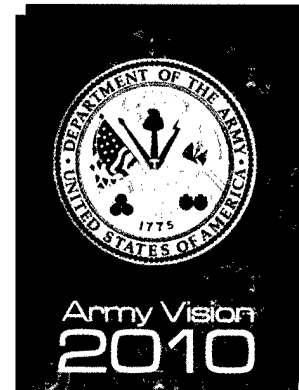
The United States Army is preparing to meet the demands of national defense in the 21st century. To accomplish that purpose, the Army must transform itself into a high-technology force composed of quality soldiers prepared to face a broad spectrum of threats around the world. Evolving from Force XXI concepts, the Army is continuing to identify the capabilities and technologies it will need to dominate any battlefield of the future. This is a dynamic process that challenges Army leaders daily. The emergence of new technologies for warfighting and the constantly changing global situation require that the Army develop new doctrine and weapons. Unchanged in this complex transition are the values and beliefs that bond the Army together and to the nation, a common heritage dating back to the colonial settlements of the "New World." This relationship will continue to be a source of strength for the United States into the 21st century.

The heritage of the United States Army—the story of the service and sacrifice of its soldiers—is preserved in the history of the Army. The Army Historical Program (AHP) is the process the Army uses to maintain an accurate and complete record of its actions in both war and peace. The AHP synthesizes the efforts of many diverse Army organizations and commanders to prepare our historical record and to preserve the heritage of the United States Army. It provides a wealth of products and services to the Army and the nation and ensures that the story of the American soldier lives in the minds and hearts of all Americans.

# The Army Historical Program

*... more than the sum of many parts*

The Army Historical Program is a complex system. We must synchronize the components of the AHP to achieve optimum effectiveness and efficiency. The Chief of Military History manages the AHP and is responsible for providing a focus for military history activities throughout the Army. The Center of Military History coordinates and synchronizes the efforts of many Army organizations and commanders. The AHP's components provide products and services for specific Army users, all of which contribute to the success of the AHP. The Military History Coordinating Committee oversees the military history education program for all Army personnel. The Department of the Army Historical Advisory Committee advises the



Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff on historical issues and programs. The major commands of the Army produce organizational history and operate unit museums. Military history detachments (MHDs) support the major commands when deployed to combat and contingency operations. Within the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Army schools receive assistance from the Center for Army Lessons Learned, the Combat Studies Institute, and the Center for Army Leadership in carrying out the military history mission. The

U.S. Military Academy and the Cadet Command develop materials and teach military history in pre-commissioning training. The Army's Military History

Institute at Carlisle Barracks serves as the U.S. Army's central repository for historical materials and supports the U.S. Army War College. The result is a comprehensive program

that accurately preserves the institutional memory of the Army, supports decision-making and education, and fosters unit pride and esprit.

# The Army Historical Program

## Purpose:

The Army Historical Program provides the Army and the nation with effective military history programs and services.

## Mission:

The Army Historical Program preserves, critically interprets, disseminates, and teaches military history; provides historical advice; and stimulates historical mindedness within the Army and throughout the nation.

## Vision:

The Army Historical Program: the principal source of official history for the Army, a fully integrated and properly resourced network of professionals serving soldiers and supporting decision-making Army-wide, exploiting advanced technologies, providing relevant, timely, historical products and services, and stimulating historical mindedness within the Army and throughout the nation.



*"To be a successful soldier you must know history. . . ."*

—George S. Patton

The Chief of Military History ensures that a successful Army Historical Program is more than the sum of its many parts; the program will have the following attributes:

- ◆ Commanders, soldiers, and history professionals incorporated into a common effort.
- ◆ Stable resources consistent with the strategic vision and mission requirements.
- ◆ Professional and material assets fully utilized.
- ◆ Accessible, fully interactive media designed to serve soldiers, decision-makers, and the nation at large.
- ◆ Historical support provided to all deployable commands.
- ◆ Centrally coordinated.
- ◆ History education integrated at all levels of Army training.
- ◆ Customers satisfied with timely, accurate support.
- ◆ An accurate and complete record of Army experience is collected and preserved; and accessible historical products are relevant, easily usable, and disseminated to soldiers and customers at all levels.



## Major Focus Areas

To implement this vision, the Army Historical Program uses five major focus areas to direct effort and resources. The MAJOR FOCUS AREAS are *Information Technology*, *Products and Services*, *Outreach*, *Education*, and *Program Management*. Each of these areas has a goal and objectives to guide the actions necessary to achieve success in each focus area. The major focus areas are of equal value and are not prioritized in this plan.



### **I. Information Technology:**

**Goal:** We provide on-demand, interactive access to military history information including official publications, artifact data, and source documentation through the use of appropriate technology.

### **II. Products/Services:**

**Goal:** Our customers receive timely, accurate, and comprehensive historical information and services.

### **III. Outreach:**

**Goal:** The AHP is both proactive and responsive to the Army's needs; all potential customers are aware of, and have access to, historical products and services.

### **IV. Education:**

**Goal:** The Total Army thinks in historical context.

### **V. Program Management:**

**Goal:** All history components/activities routinely collaborate, coordinate, and support each other to maximize program results and minimize duplication.



# Major Focus Area: Information Technology

The Army Historical Program includes all historical activities across the Army. The amount of historical information available today is both extensive and detailed. For most soldiers and civilians, time, location, and technology limit access to this information. Using the available information technology vastly improves access to the variety of AHP information and products.

**Goal:** On-demand, interactive access to military history information including official publications, artifact data, and source documentation through the use of appropriate technology.

- Objective 1: Adequate system of hardware, software, and communications that interconnects researchers, the Army, and the public to the historical data

- Objective 2: User friendly tools to allow access to historical data and interaction among the users



- Objective 3: Historical and artifact data fully indexed and available in the system

- Objective 4: A living, growing system responsive to changing needs of the soldier and customer community

The Army Historical Program Strategic Plan 2010 will support Army Vision 2010 by leveraging information technology to provide commanders with “real time” historical products and services to achieve information dominance across the spectrum of conflict. Moreover, information technology will provide easier access for our entire customer base to benefit from the historical treasures collected over the past 220 years of our illustrious military history.

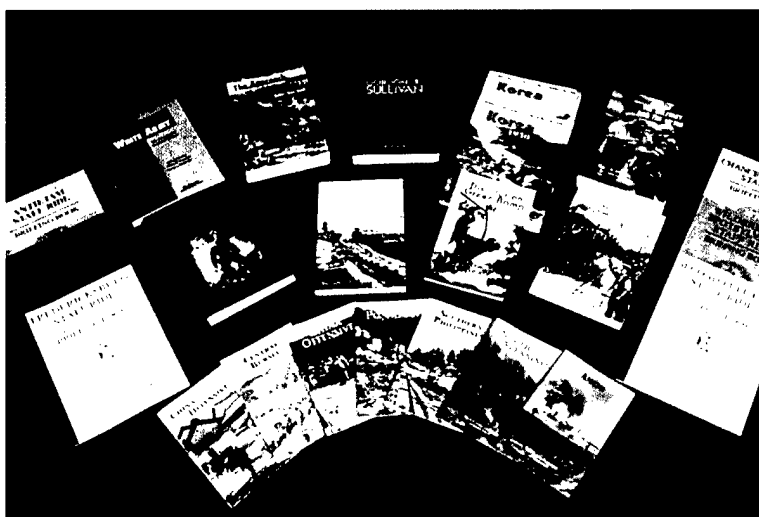
## Major Focus Area: Products and Services

As the Army continues to evolve from a "Cold War" Army to a highly mobile "Force Projection" Army, it is incumbent on each component of the Army Historical Program to anticipate future mission requirements. By anticipating these requirements, the Army Historical Program will be able to provide better support to decision-makers.



**Goal:** Our customers receive timely, accurate, and comprehensive historical information and services.

- Objective 1: Full array of historical products and services meeting identified and expected needs is available for the soldier and the general customer community
- Objective 2: An agreed-upon system of priorities drives timely responsiveness
- Objective 3: Recognized utility of Army Historical Plan is based on the objectivity and accuracy of products and services
- Objective 4: The distribution system is flexible and responsive



The delivery of the products and services of the Army Historical Program must not only be relevant and timely, but of the highest quality as well. To this end, customer feedback will be essential to ensure AHP components are meeting these objectives. The Program will use various means to obtain this feedback, ranging from an interactive website to annual surveys.

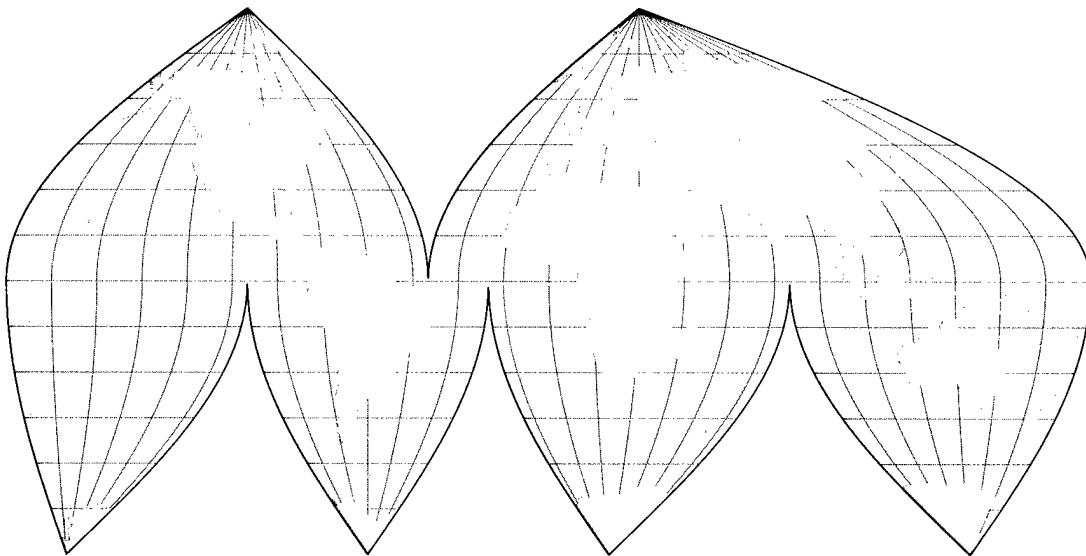
## Major Focus Area: Outreach



The use of relevant history to inform and guide Army decision-making at every level is a bedrock of the Army Historical Program. All AHP components must actively seek out opportunities to employ timely, relevant historical analysis to help Army leaders with a wide variety of missions. The Army must come to learn that the AHP is a ready, valuable source of information to support the full range of current and future missions.

**Goal:** The Army Historical Program is both proactive and responsive to the Army's needs: all potential customers are aware of, and have access to, historical products and services.

- Objective 1: Climate supports a close working relationship between AHP customers and AHP components
- Objective 2: Army Historical Program routinely anticipates requirements of leaders and their staffs for historical information and analysis
- Objective 3: Army Historical Program products and services are marketed successfully
- Objective 4: Army Historical Program is sufficiently resourced to be both proactive and responsive



**THE ARMY HISTORICAL PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE ARMY WORLDWIDE**

## Major Focus Area: Education

Professional development has always been and will continue to be the cornerstone of the Army. The Army's values—honor, integrity, selfless service, courage, loyalty, duty, and respect—are steeped in tradition. From the days of the Revolutionary War through current operations, soldiers have been living these values. The Army Historical Program, in conjunction with Training and Doctrine Command, must not only ensure history is consistently included in soldier and leader development, but stimulate an interest in military history as well.



**Goal:** The Total Army thinks in historical context.

- Objective 1: Soldiers are aware of Army heritage, customs, and traditions
- Objective 2: Units exploit history to build cohesion and communicate Army values
- Objective 3: Military History is incorporated in all levels of Army training
- Objective 4: History is an essential element of professional military education



## Major Focus Area: Program Management

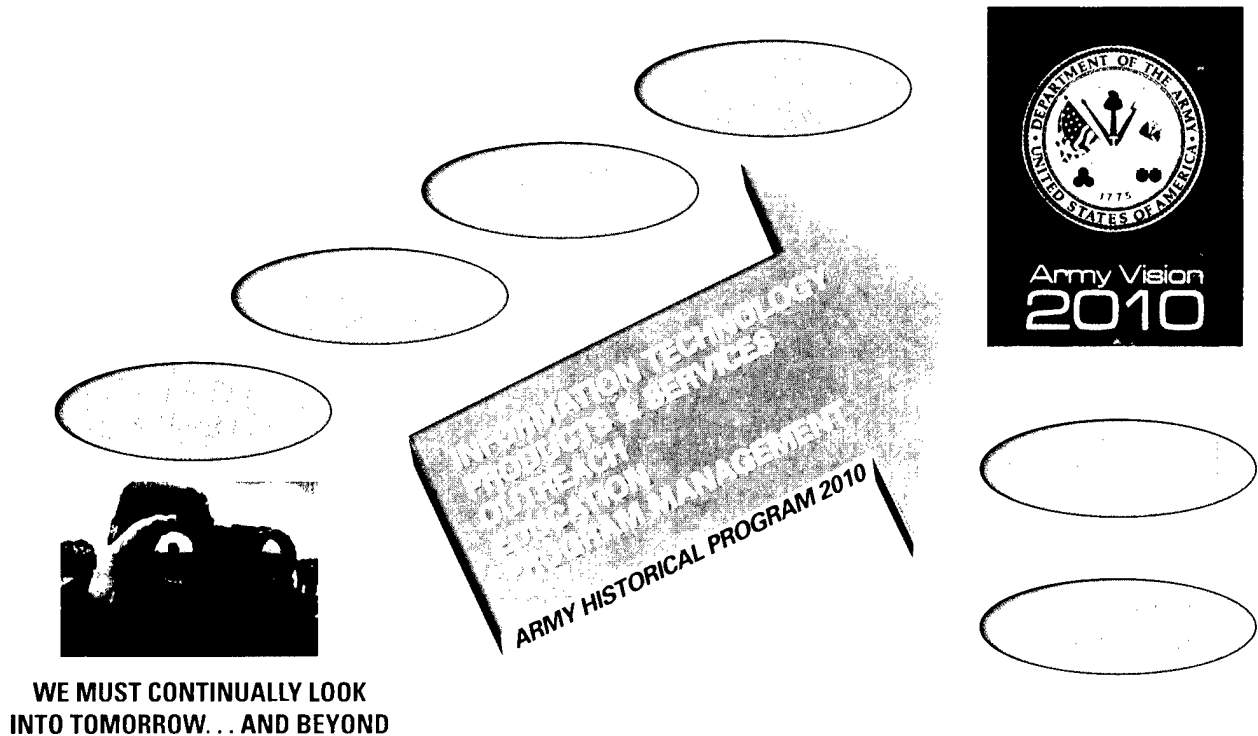
The Army Historical Program is a complex program composed of numerous elements throughout the Army. It is essential that the Chief of Military History coordinate all AHP activities through the Center of Military History. To optimize the benefits provided by the AHP, the senior leadership of the Army must remain involved in the program and provide guidance to both the organizations that work the program and those in the Army who will use its products.

**Goal:** All history components/activities routinely collaborate, coordinate, and support each other to maximize program results and minimize duplication.

- Objective 1: The Chief of Military History is a General Officer, thus providing the inherent experience, maturity, influence, and objectivity necessary for the direction, visibility, and viability of the Army Historical Program
- Objective 2: Army senior leaders provide timely, informed insights to maximize AHP utility for the Army
- Objective 3: Each component of the AHP has a Mission Essential Task List (METL) which has been coordinated and deconflicted



# The Journey Ahead



**WE MUST CONTINUALLY LOOK  
INTO TOMORROW... AND BEYOND**

Creating the Army Historical Program for the 21st century will demand the efforts of all commanders, soldiers, and history professionals Army-wide. Recording and preserving the history of the Army in an era of rapid developments in information technology gives the AHP team an unparalleled opportunity to produce accessible, interactive sources of historical information. The development of the National Museum of the United States Army (NMUSA), the capstone to the Army Museum System, will provide the Army a world-class facility to preserve, study, and interpret Army material culture. These timely, comprehensive products and services will be made available to more people both in the Army and around the world. This increase in the availability of AHP products and near-real time data links demands that the Army's historians and curators seek out innovative methods to anticipate and respond to the needs of Army decision-makers. To gain maximum benefits from the AHP, soldiers at all levels must be trained to study and use military history to their advantage. To meet the increased requirements of a historically conscious Army, the professionals of the AHP team will routinely collaborate and coordinate their efforts to achieve the full potential from the Program.

This strategic plan defines the path to the future for the Army Historical Program. More than ever before, the historians, curators, and archivists throughout the Army will be able to work more closely together to provide the complete benefits of an increasingly sophisticated program. These professionals will work in concert to preserve heritage of the past and serve the soldiers of the 21st century.